AMERICA

KEIKO ICHIGUCHI

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Where are we going?

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AMERICA

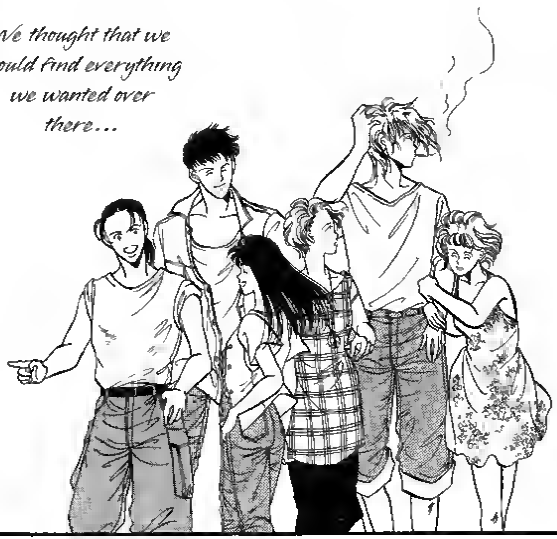
Chapter One

Let's see... where shall I start?

In 1988...

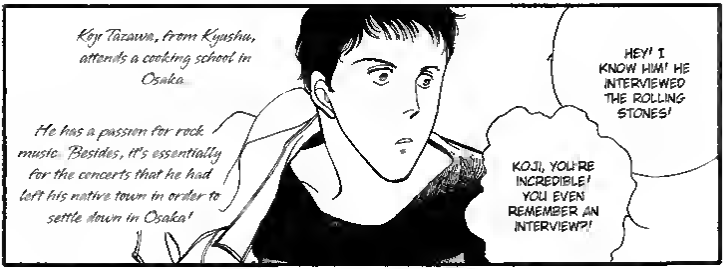
People were only talking about love, dreams, and hopes. We were often repeating this as if they were some kind of incantations...

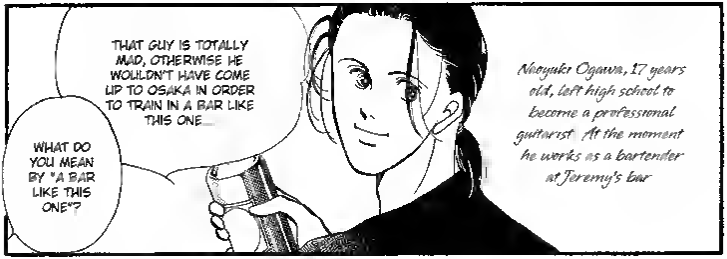
We thought that we would find everything we wanted over there...

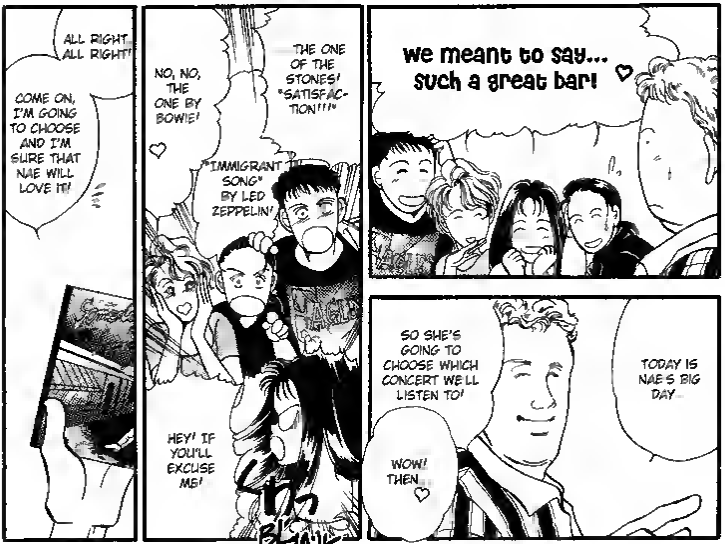


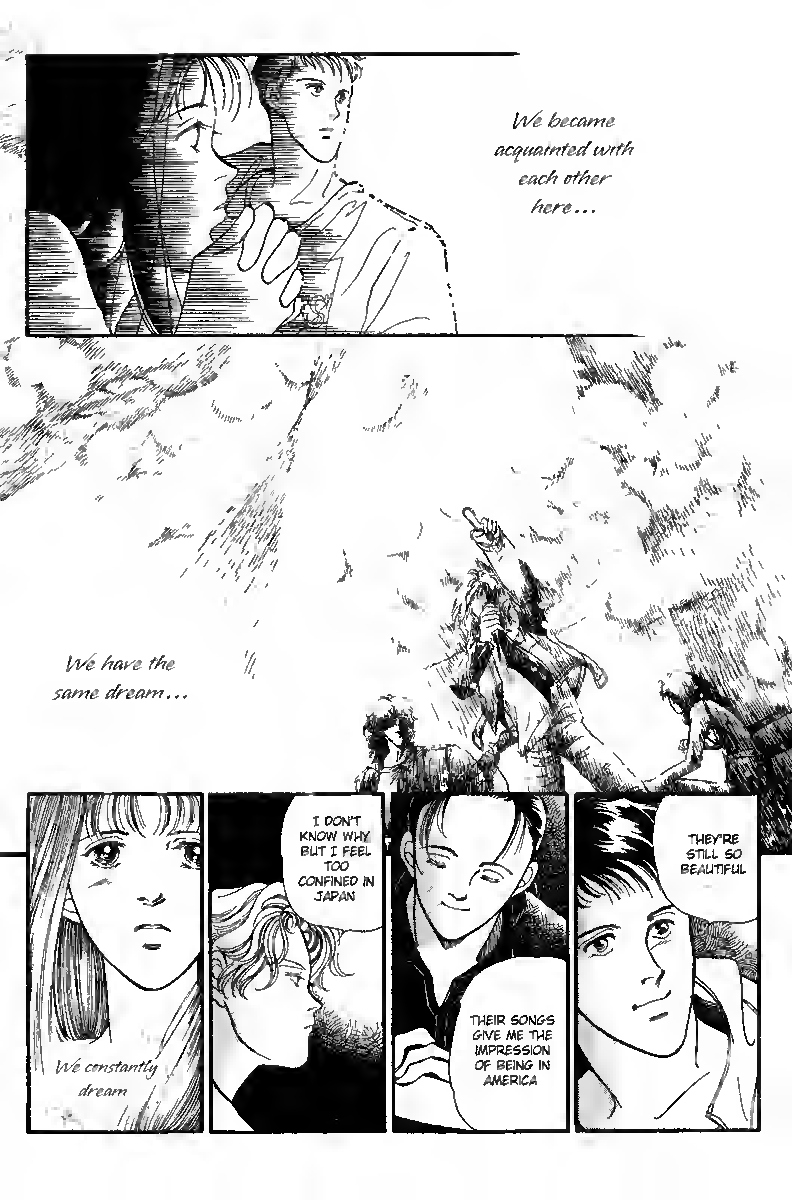
DAMDAM-
DAMDAM
HALL OF ROCK
HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWEST AEROSMITH?
WHAT? THAT'S A BOOTLEG, ISN'T IT?
YEAH BUT THERE'S A SONG I DON'T KNOW
IT'S A COVER FROM ANOTHER GROUP!
DAM DAM DAM
Blah
Blah
Blah
WHAT GROUP?!
NO IDEA MAYBE THE ANIMALS
tap tap tap
HELLO, JEREMY!
HASN'T NAE ARRIVED YET?
Tap tap tap tap
Bang

I, NAE TOGAWA, 18 YEARS OLD
I HAVE WON A PRIZE IN A CONTEST FOR YOUNG NOVELISTS!
HELLO GUYS! LISTEN TO THIS!
JEREMY! PORK RIBS, PIZZAS AND HAMBURGERS FOR EVERY-BODY!
COOL! SO TODAY IT'S YOUR TREAT!
BUT ONLY FIFTY THOU-SAND YEN*
*~$600
AND AFTER-WARDS SOME WINE TOO!
I COMPETED IN THE SECOND CATEGORY... IT'S NOT THE GRAND PRIZE...
Ahaha hah
WHAT?!?
THEN YOU HAVE WON ONE MILLION YEN*!
*~$12,000
BUT, NEVER-THELESS YOU'VE WON SOME MONEY, RIGHT?
YES...
NO, NO
YOU MUST BE JOKING! YOU MUST BE JOKING!
THAT'S TRULY GREAT YOU'RE DRAWING NEARER TO YOUR DREAM
YOU'LL BE ABLE TO WRITE... LIKE THAT AMERICAN JOURNALIST YOU LIKE SO MUCH
HMM...
BOB GREEN!
WHAT WAS HIS NAME AGAIN?
(Takako Shima has studied at an American university... She is a bit like a big sister to us all.)


Koji Tazawa, from Kyushu, attends a cooking school in Osaka.
He has a passion for rock music. Besides, it's essentially for the concerts that he had left his native town in order to settle down in Osaka!
HEY! I KNOW HIM! HE INTERVIEWED THE ROLLING STONES!
KOJI, YOU'RE INCREDIBLE! YOU EVEN REMEMBER AN INTERVIEW?!


THAT GUY IS TOTALLY MAD, OTHERWISE HE WOULDN'T HAVE COME UP TO OSAKA IN ORDER TO TRAIN IN A BAR LIKE THIS ONE...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "A BAR LIKE THIS ONE"?
Naoyuki Ogawa, 17 years old, left high school to become a professional guitarist. At the moment he works as a bartender at Jeremy's bar


ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT!
COME ON, I'M GOING TO CHOOSE AND I'M SURE THAT NAE WILL LOVE IT!
NO, NO, THE ONE BY BOWIE!
THE ONE OF THE STONES! "SATISFAC-TION!!!"
"IMMIGRANT SONG" BY LED ZEPPELIN!
HEY! IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME!
we meant to say... such a great bar!
SO SHE'S GOING TO CHOOSE WHICH CONCERT WE'LL LISTEN TO!
WOW! THEN
TODAY IS NAE'S BIG DAY...


We became acquainted with each other here...
We have the same dream...
We constantly dream
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I FEEL TOO CONFINED IN JAPAN
THEIR SONGS GIVE ME THE IMPRESSION OF BEING IN AMERICA
THEY'RE STILL SO BEAUTIFUL

I want to go to America.
Ah, America...
I DON'T WANNA HATE YOU, I JUST WANNA LOVE YOU. ♫
♫
WHEN WE STOP DREAMING, WE LOSE EVERYTHING.
THAT SONG IS CRAP!
SO EVERYONE WANNA GET SOMEONE TO LOVE. ♫
GULP
MARIKO!!
Whooosh
AH! HI NAE...
FLIP
WHO'S THAT GUY?!
TURN

Mariko Kurahashi, 16 years old, a regular customer from the bar
To tell the truth, I don't know her very well. She always has her head a bit in the clouds...
HIS NAME IS HUEY.
HE'S A GOOD-LOOKING FELLOW, ISN'T HE?
YOU GOT ANOTHER BOYFRIEND AGAIN?!
Hum
HE HE HE!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!
OH! YOU HEARD ME?
DON'T TALK RUBBISH
I DISLIKE YOUR RAMBLINGS
THIS BAR IS FULL OF PEOPLE WHO LOVE THE KIND OF ROCK YOU DESCRIBE AS "CRAP"!
WHY DO YOU THINK OF THIS SONG AS CRAP?
LET'S GO, MARIKO
ERR... YES
WHAT SHALL I ANSWER BACK TO A BLONDE WITH HAZEL EYES?
SNIFF
I SUPPOSE THAT'S ALL IT TAKES FOR A PURE BLOOD JAPANESE RIGHT?
SO, JUST LIKE THAT, A MERE SONG IS ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU BELIEVE YOU'RE IN AMERICA?!

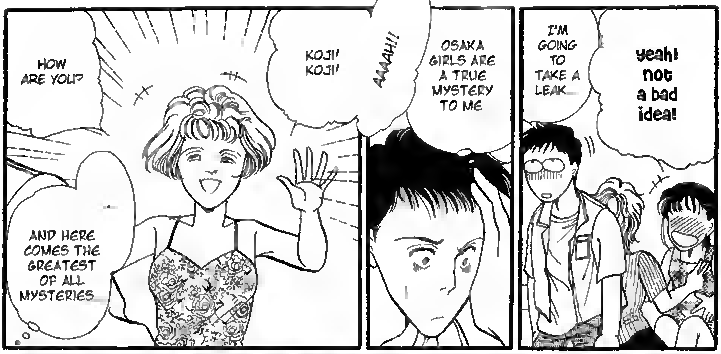
*FOREIGNER
IN ANY CASE THAT'S NONE OF OUR BUSINESS
MMH
HIS FRIENDS APPEARED TO BE PART OF THE MAFIA
MARIKO HAD BETTER NOT GET TOO INVOLVED WITH HIM
... AND ALWAYS DREW ATTENTION WITH HIS GOOD LOOKS
HE OFTEN CAME BY WITH GUYS I DIDN'T KNOW
HE'S NOT A REAL GAIJIN, BUT OF MIXED BLOOD
I DON'T LIKE THIS GAIJIN*
Anyway he can speak Japanese perfectly well
THERE ARE PEOPLE YOU BETTER NOT ASSOCIATE WITH TOO MUCH
YOU SHOULDN'T SKIMP ON YOUR ADMISSION EXAM
I DON'T LIKE KNOWING THAT YOU'RE OUT LATE AT NIGHT
IT'S SUMMER BREAK! WE WERE ONLY TALKING AMONG FRIENDS
EVEN IF YOU ATTEND THE HIGH SCHOOL ATTACHED TO THE UNIVERSITY
NAE, WHAT WERE YOU DOING SO LATE LAST NIGHT?
LATE? BUT IT WAS BARELY TEN O'CLOCK WHEN I RETURNED!

Gulp
YESTERDAY EVENING... SOMEONE CALLED FOR YOU. A CERTAIN TOKUMA MIKI
HOW SO?
I HOPE YOU HAVEN'T BEEN KEEPING BAD COMPANY...?!
I KNOW
WHO IS THAT?
MAY I KNOW WHY YOU PHONED AT MY HOUSE?!
HI
GUNMA

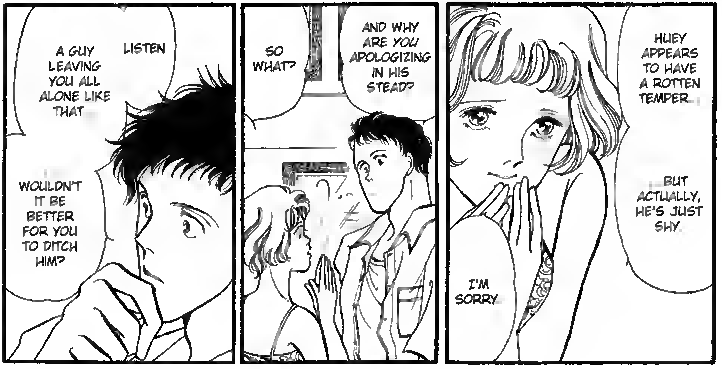
BUT MAYBE I'M JUST TREATING YOU LIKE ONE OF MY OWN STUDENTS, AREN'T I?
I'M SORRY
OH! YOU LOOK UPSET!
I'M NOT JOKING!
STOP TREATING ME LIKE A LITTLE GIRL, WILL YOU?
COME ON, DON'T PULL THAT FACE!
frshhhh
I JUST WANTED TO HEAR YOUR VOICE.
WHEN WE SEE EACH OTHER... ...DON'T STRUT ABOUT WITH YOUR WEDDING RING.
COULDN'T YOU TAKE IT OFF...? SAY...
WHY... ARE YOU SO MEAN TO ME?

NAG?!
DURING THE WEEK I GO TO CLASS AND ON THE WEEKENDS I WORK AT A RESTAURANT. THAT'S NOT MUCH OF A LIFE...
BUT WITHOUT IT I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO BUY THE TICKETS FOR THE CONCERTS...
MISTLE
THUD
THUD
TAZAWA, TAKE THE TRASH BAGS OUT
ALL RIGHT, WE'RE TAKING A BREAK!
ALL RIGHT
KOJI!
HELLO
EVERY-BODY IS ALREADY HERE.
HELLO KOJI!
Jeremy
BAR

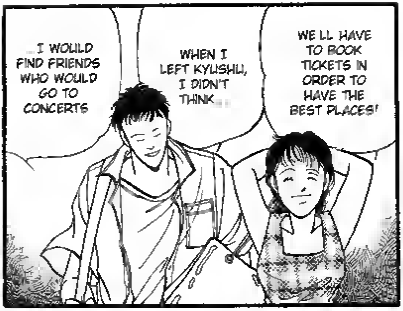
NAE IS REALLY DESPERATE SHE WANTS TO LET OFF STEAM
I'M NOT DRUNK! I'M HAPPY!
AND YOU ARE ABLE TO GET DRUNK, EVEN WITH THIS?! THAT'S CRAZY!
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DRINK?
CIDER!
HI!!
HEY!
A GOOD-FOR-NOTHING!
YOU SEE THE TOTALLY HOPELESS KIND...
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO EXPLAIN IT TO YOU HE'S SOME KIND OF ARTIST...
SO...
WHAT?!
GULP
EH EH EH! IT'S ONLY THAT...
...I HAVE A COMPLICATED STORY WITH AN ODD GUY
IF YOU WANT, I CAN HOLD HER LEGS...
SHUFF SHUFF
GULP
COME ON, IF I COULD DO IT, I WOULDN'T HAVE ANY PROBLEMS!
...SO THAT YOU CAN JUMP HER.
...WHY DON'T YOU DUMP HIM?


HOW ARE YOU?
KOJI! KOJI!
AAAAH!!!
OSAKA GIRLS ARE A TRUE MYSTERY TO ME
I'M GOING TO TAKE A LEAK...
yeah! not a bad idea!
AND HERE COMES THE GREATEST OF ALL MYSTERIES

THAT STUCK IN MY THROAT.
Hum... I apolo-giz...
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
I love this song!!!
HAVE YOU SEEN HUEY?
THE OTHER DAY HE PULLED OUR LEG
HUEY LOVES ROCK VERY MUCH...
ACCORDING TO ME, HE ISN'T COMING BECAUSE...
AH! SO YOU LOVE MEGADETH?!
HE DISLIKES THIS BAR...


A GUY LEAVING YOU ALL ALONE LIKE THAT
LISTEN
WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER FOR YOU TO DITCH HIM?
SO WHAT?
AND WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZING IN HIS STEAD?
HUEY APPEARS TO HAVE A ROTTEN TEMPER...
...BUT ACTUALLY, HE'S JUST SHY.
I'M SORRY.

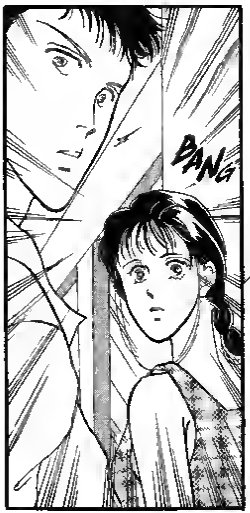
AND SO, I LOVE HIS WAY OF HUGGING ME VERY TIGHT
EVEN IF I'M NOT VERY SMART, HE DOESN'T MAKE FUN OF ME
THAT ISN'T POSSIBLE
...BECAUSE I LIKE HIM
THANK YOU!!!
YOU LOOK VERY CUTE TODAY!
MARI-KO
AND SINCE YOU LIKE HIM, YOU CAN'T DO WITHOUT HIM.
I SEE
EXACTLY!
AAH! NOW THAT I'VE SAID IT, I'M EMBARRASSED!
HUGGING Y
WOW
BYE, TAKAKO!
I MUST HEAD THIS WAY SEE YOU
ALL RIGHT!
SHALL WE GO TOGETHER?
KOJI, YOU'RE RIDING ON THE SUBWAY, AREN'T YOU?
OH! TIME FOR THE LAST TRAIN!
WHAT TIME IS IT?


I WOULD FIND FRIENDS WHO WOULD GO TO CONCERTS
WHEN I LEFT KYUSHU, I DIDN'T THINK
WE'LL HAVE TO BOOK TICKETS IN ORDER TO HAVE THE BEST PLACES!

THE CLIP FROM THE NEW SONG IS WICKED, RIGHT?
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT BON JOVI?
YES. IF THEY EVER GIVE A CONCERT IN JAPAN ARE YOU UP FOR IT?
DAMN RIGHT!!

MY, HOW MODEST!

YES YOU'RE LUCKY!
BECAUSE YOU ONLY ASSOCIATE WITH VERY PRETTY YOUNG GIRLS


BANG

IN ANY CASE... I'M VERY HAPPY
REALLY
... TO HAVE MET ALL OF YOU
After all, well, Naoyuki is a boy!

DASH
STOP THIEF!!!
HELP!
OOOH
NOOOOOO!!!!

THE SUSPECT IS HEADING SOUTHWARDS! HE'S STILL ARMED!
IS EVERY-THING ALL RIGHT?
KOJI!!!
Are you all right?
KOJI!!!
KOJI!!!
Where are we?
I got scared!
AAH! ARE YOU ALIVE? ALIVE!
POLICE
...armed with a revolver. The Osaka police will continue pursuing their search.
Still no trace of the suspect responsible for the armed robbery which took place yesterday evening in the center of Osaka...
According to the witnesses, he is supposed to be a stranger...
BLAH
BLAH

BLAH BLAH
UNHAND ME! SINCE I'M TELLING YOU THAT I'VE GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT MATTER!
BLAH
AH, MISS, YOUR PARENTS ARE GOING TO COME FETCH YOU...
YOU'RE UNDERAGE YOU SHOULDN'T BE TAKING A STROLL INTO TOWN DURING THE NIGHT...
WHAT?!
THANKS
THE WITNESSES MAY LEAVE
CLACK
AAAH! NAE?!
MARI-KO!!!
HUEY!!!
THEY WERE LOOKING FOR A FOREIGNER AND WE WERE AROUND THUS I'M A SUSPECT NOW!
THEY EVEN ENDED UP IMPLYING THAT I KNEW THE CRIMINAL
ZILCH!
HAVE YOU NOTICED ANYTHING?
I WAS SO SCARED!
YES. WE GO TO THE SAME BAR.
YOU KNOW EACH OTHER?

AND YOU ALWAYS DRAW ATTENTION TO YOURSELF.
ANY POLICEMAN WOULD BRING A BOY WANDERING IN TOWN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT TO THE POLICE STATION
MIND YOUR OWN BUISNESS!
DON'T USE THAT TONE OF VOICE WITH ME, YOUNG MAN. HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN HOW MANY TIMES I HELPED YOU OUT?
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE THIS TIME?
OH! IT'S YOU?! I RECOGNIZED YOUR VOICE
NOTHING AT ALL!!!
...I'M HAPPY TO SEE THAT YOU HAVE NORMAL FRIENDS...
I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU DON'T WANT TO GO HOME. BUT...
FRIENDS?!

NO... IT'S NICE...
WHEN YOU SPEAK YOU'RE CUTE AND VERY NICE!
I'M SORRY!
SORRY
YOU HAVE A HELL OF AN OSAKA ACCENT DESPITE LOOKING SO MUCH LIKE A WESTERNER.
I DON'T SEE WHAT'S SO FUNNY?!
MPF!
CU...
I WAS TOLD THAT YOU LOVE ROCK?!
WHY DON'T YOU DROP BY AT THE BAR? IT'S GOING TO BE FUN. WE'LL SHOW YOU LOTS OF NEW CLIPS!
I...
OH! YOU'RE ALL RED!
SO, HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE LIKED?
He! he!
WITH HER UNPRETENTIOUSNESS NAE KNOWS HOW TO ESTABLISH TIES OF FRIENDSHIP WITH JUST ABOUT ANYONE.
...EVEN WITH ME
COME WITH MARIKO!
HECK! COME ON!
SMILE

NAE!!
DAD...
OUCH!!!
NO, DON'T HIT HER!
YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY THAT SHE'S SAFE AND SOUND!

GOOD MORNING
KNOCK
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY HE'S WORRIED ABOUT YOU?!
HE HIT ME HARD...
NAE, WON'T YOU HAVE SOME BREAK-FAST?
NO, I'M GOING OUT.
NAE HAVE YOU READ THE NEWS-PAPER?
THE SUSPECT HASN'T BEEN ARRESTED YET
JAPAN IS CHANGING IT'S IMITATING THE WORST OF OTHER COUNTRIES
BY HANGING OUT WITH JUST ANYBODY, YOU COULD HAVE BEEN UP TO YOUR NECK IN YOU KNOW WHAT YESTER-DAY EVENING
I APOLO-GIZE...
BUT THEY AREN'T JUST "ANYBODY"
THEY'RE ALL COURAGEOUS, YOUNG PEOPLE...
WE OFTEN SPEAK ABOUT THE FUTURE...

AH! ABOUT YOUR FUTURE?
FOR EXAMPLE?
I WANT TO GO TO AMERICA.
?!
...A foreign country... People from another race...
I FEEL THAT I'M GOING TO FIND SOMETHING OVER THERE...
SOMETHING I WON'T EVER FIND HERE...
...WHEN I THINK ABOUT AMERICA.
I HAVE NO LOGICAL EXPLANATION BUT MY HEART IS BEATING SO FAST...

BANG
DON'T SAY SUCH NON-SENSE!
I WANT TO SEE WHAT HE DOES...
HE WRITES ARTICLES ABOUT RICH PEOPLE AND THE POOR... HE'S VERY GENEROUS AND VERY UNDER-STANDING...
THERE'S AN AMERICAN JOURNALIST I LIKE VERY MUCH
AND BESIDES...
...ONE DAY I WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A JOURNALIST LIKE HIM...

NAE, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?!
YOUR CHEEKS ARE ALL PUFFED OUT!
MY FATHER SLAPPED ME...
BECAUSE I'M HANGING OUT WITH JUST ABOUT ANYBODY...
SO THAT MEANS I'M INNOCENT I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING...
KOJI!
NAOYUKI, GIVE ME A COKE, WILL YOU?
KOJI, HAVE YOU WATCHED THE NEWS ON TV?
NOT FAR AWAY FROM HERE,
A FOREIGNER ATTACKED A TAXI DRIVER TO STEAL HIS MONEY. HE THREATENED HIM WITH A GUN! YOU WOULD THINK WE WERE IN AMERICA, RIGHT?
YEAH!
HE REALLY DID A JOB ON YOU, YOU KNOW...
THEY HAVEN'T PUBLISHED OUR NAMES OR SO I HOPE.
NO

DO YOU REMEMBER THAT LOSER GUY?
WHO?
YOU KNOW, THE OTHER DAY, I COMPLAINED ABOUT MY BOY-FRIEND...
AH! YES...
HE'S OLDER THAN ME HE'S A SCULPTOR
I WAS ATTRACTED TO HIM BECAUSE I HEARD HE HAD ALREADY EXHIBITED HIS WORK IN THE UNITED STATES
IT'S AS SIMPLE AS THAT, AND YET UTTER NONSENSE, ISN'T IT?
INWARDLY, I WAS YELLING "HE LIVED IN AMERICA...!"
"... HE SUCCEEDED IN SUCH A BIG COUNTRY..."
AH AH! I'M SUCH A FOOL
WATCHING CRIMINALS ARMED TO THE TEETH ON TV IS LIKE WATCHING A THRILLER...
...BUT BASICALLY IT'S SOMETHING REALLY FRIGHTENING
I REALLY LIKE THE UNITED STATES VERY MUCH, BUT...
...IN REALITY I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT COUNTRY...
I TOLD MY FATHER I WANTED TO GO TO AMERICA
KNOCK
"DON'T SAY NONSENSE!"
HE SNUBBED ME...
HEY! WHAT ABOUT ME THEN, WHAT SHOULD I SAY?
I'M JUST A ROCK FANATIC
...I WANT TO GO THERE BECAUSE EVEN IF YOU EARN YOUR LIVING BY PLAYING THE GUITAR ON THE STREET, NOBODY IS JUDGING YOU!
AND I...

"THEY'VE ALL COME TO LOOK FOR AMERICA."
♫
THIS IS HOW SIMON AND GARFUNKEL SANG
...BUT AMERICA IS THE ANSWER TO EVERY-THING!
NOBODY KNOWS WHY...
COME ON, HANG IN THERE YOU MUST PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER.
YES
AH HA HA!
You're a bit different today!!
YOU'RE A TRUE POET!
WOW! ♡
MARI-KO?!
.. Help!
I CAN'T HEAR YOU...
WHO'S ON THE PHONE?
HELLO?
EXIT
NAE, PHONE FOR YOU!
YES! ♡
THUMP

HELP!
HUEY IS GOING TO KILL HIS FATHER!
HELP, NAE!
DASH
TAKAKO!
TAP TAP
THANK YOU FOR COMING SHE GAVE ME THE NAME OF THE STATION, BUT WE DON'T KNOW THIS AREA
FORTUNATELY, YOU LIVE NEARBY!
HE LIVES IN A BIG HOUSE A BIT FURTHER.
ANYWAY, WHERE'S MARIKO?!

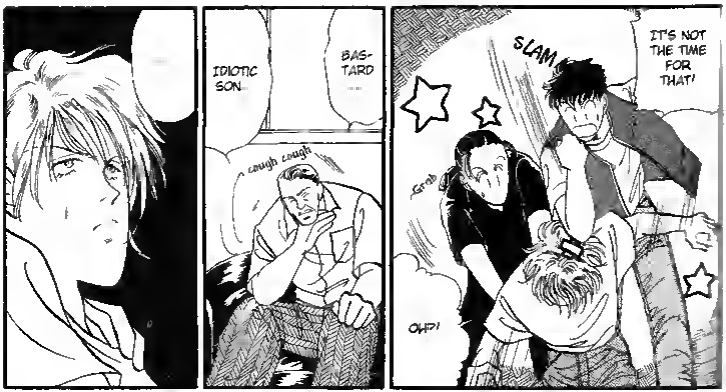
AAAAAH!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT
SHAAA
Dri
!
THERE YOU ARE!
HAVE YOU NO OTHER FRIENDS TO ASK FOR HELP?
WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE IF YOU HADN'T FOUND US HERE?
YOU'RE SUCH AN IDIOT!
YOU HAVE NO ONE ELSE ASIDE FROM US?
HEY TELL ME!

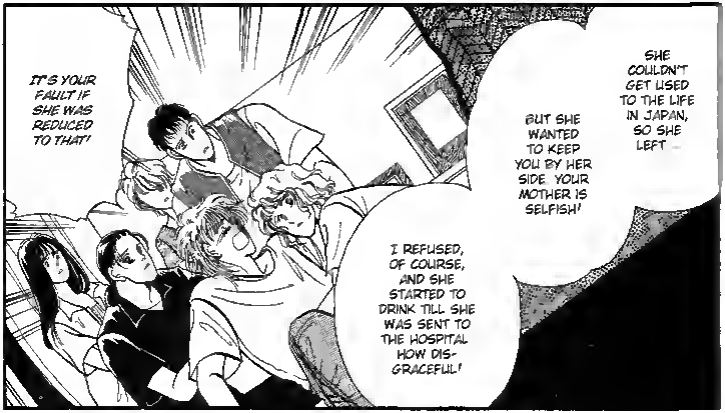
Grab
YOU SEE HOW I'M NOT VERY SMART?
He he
HUEY HAS FOUND THE LETTERS
HIS MOTHER'S LETTERS FROM AMERICA.
AMERICA?
HE SAID SHE WAS SENDING THEM FOR YEARS
AND THAT HIS FATHER HID THEM FROM HIM
HUEY THOUGHT HIS FATHER HATED THEM BOTH, HIS MOTHER AND HIM TOO SINCE HE LOOKS LIKE HER.
HIS MOTHER LEFT THEM
HE BELIEVED THAT NOBODY LOVED HIM
HE CAME TO KNOW THAT HIS MOTHER, DESPITE BEING IN A DIFFERENT COUNTRY, STILL WORRIES ABOUT HIM...
BUT THAT'S NOT TRUE...

WHAT SHALL WE DO, SHALL WE RING AT THE DOOR?
WOW! A VERY LUXURI-OUS HOUSE!
HE'S THERE
WAIT A BIT MARIKO...
I STILL DON'T UNDER-STAND
IT'S COMING FROM BEHIND!
CRASH
ARGH!!!
Clack
AH!

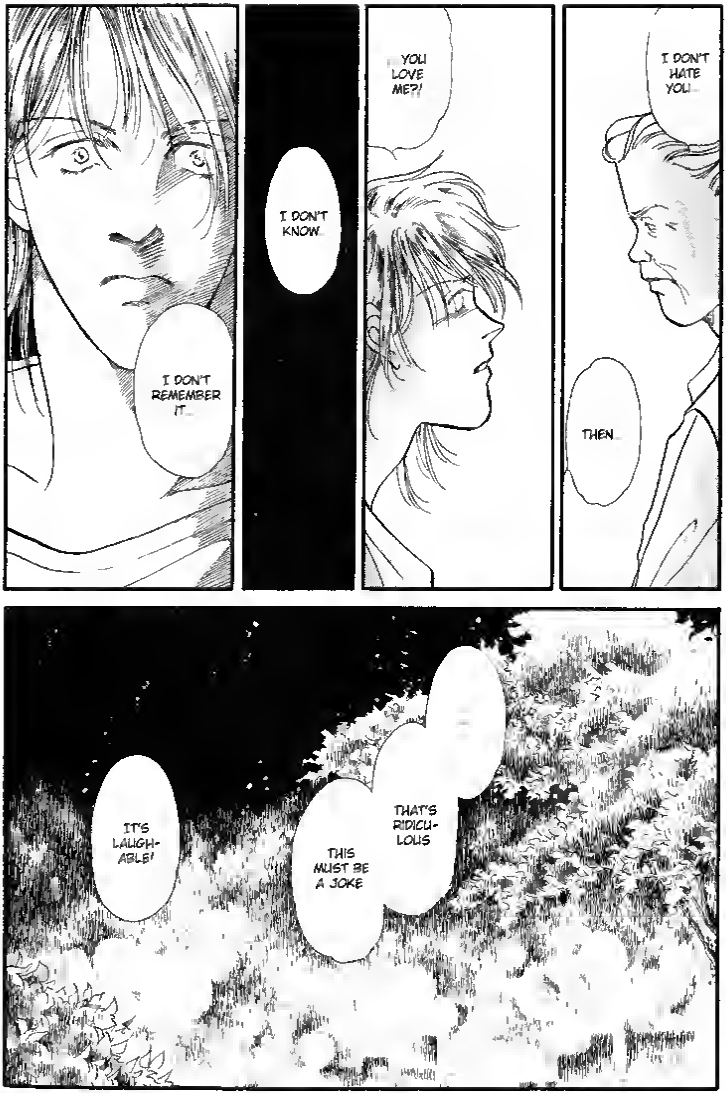
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE MY FATHER!
Cough
STOP IT, HUEY!
YOU DON'T INTEND TO REALLY KILL HIM, DO YOU?!
WHAT ARE...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

THUD
LET GO OF ME!
AH!
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
GRAB
STOP!!!
?!
GRAB
SH
Tremble Tremble
No
Don't kill your father
LET ME GO, MARIKO!
NO, HUEY!


IDIOTIC SON...
BAS-TARD ...
cough cough
SLAM
IT'S NOT THE TIME FOR THAT!
Grab
OH?!

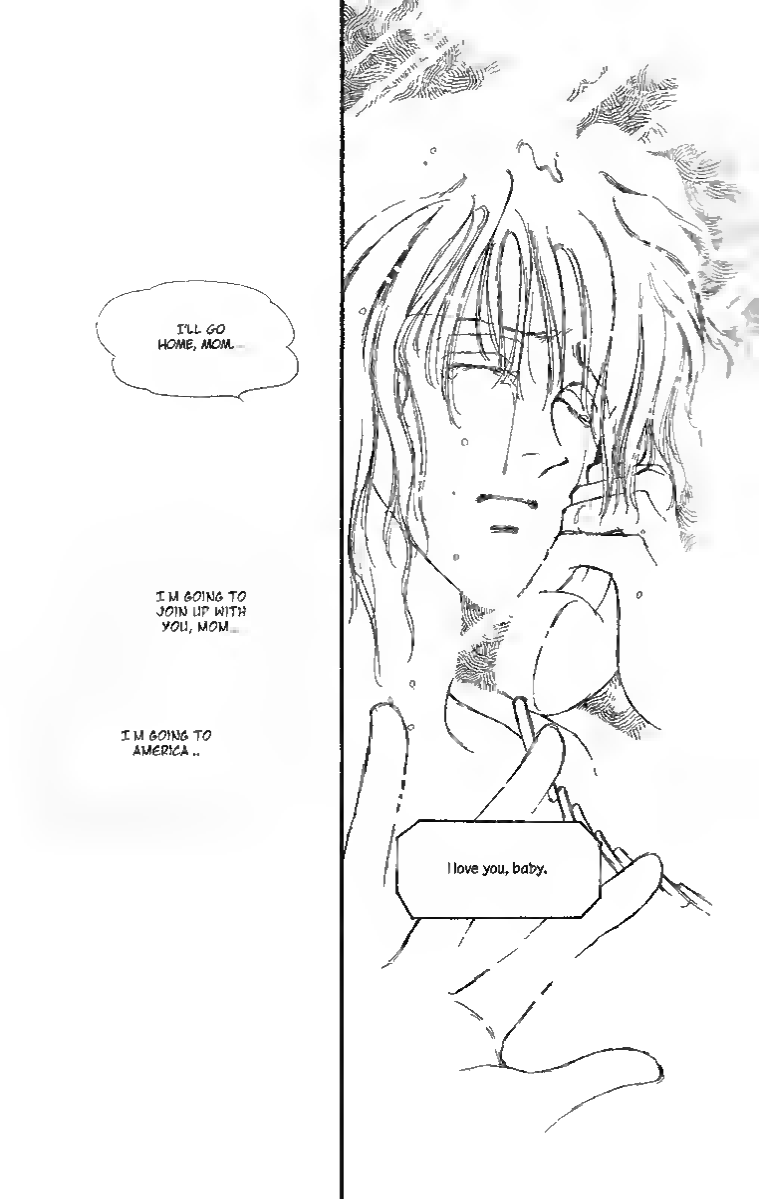

IT'S YOUR FAULT IF SHE WAS REDUCED TO THAT!
SHE COULDN'T GET USED TO THE LIFE IN JAPAN, SO SHE LEFT...
BUT SHE WANTED TO KEEP YOU BY HER SIDE. YOUR MOTHER IS SELFISH!
I REFUSED, OF COURSE, AND SHE STARTED TO DRINK TILL SHE WAS SENT TO THE HOSPITAL. HOW DIS-GRACEFUL!

YOU PREFERRED TO KEEP ME BY YOUR SIDE, EVEN THOUGH YOU HATE ME... EVEN IF I LOOK LIKE THE WOMAN WHO LEFT YOU...
WHY DIDN'T YOU LET ME LEAVE WITH HER?!


I DON'T REMEMBER IT...
I DON'T KNOW...
...YOU LOVE ME?!
I DON'T HATE YOU!
THEN...
IT'S LAUGH-ABLE!
THIS MUST BE A JOKE
THAT'S RIDICU-LOUS

NAE...
LAUGH-ABLE...
PFF...
HILEY'S FATHER LEFT HER PHONE NUMBER...
...HE ASKED ME TO GIVE IT TO HIM.
XOOX OO!
PHEW.

Huey?
...MO...
MOM...?
But I've always wanted to tell you something.
May I tell you?
Huey, are you still there? Answer me...
I can't believe it's you...
Oh, Huey, do you remember me?
Maybe you hate me, my little Huey?
Huey...
...
MMH, I'M HERE


I'LL GO HOME, MOM...
I'M GOING TO JOIN UP WITH YOU, MOM...
I'M GOING TO AMERICA..
I love you, baby.

THOUGH, EARLIER ON, YOU WERE HUMMING QUITE GLADLY TO THIS SONG FROM QUEEN...
SHUT UP!
I'M NOT HERE BECAUSE I LIKE IT!
I'M JUST WORKING TO EARN ENOUGH MONEY TO GO TO AMERICA
HEY! YOU DON'T LOOK SO BAD!
LIKE A REAL BAR-TENDER!!
HI!!!
HOUSE OF ROCK
CLACK
IT'S TO WORK ON MY ENGLISH!
OH YEAH? FOR SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T LIKE ROCK YOU KNOW THE SONGS FROM DAN REED NETWORK, J GEILS BAND, ETC AWFULLY WELL
GIVE ME A BOURBON ON THE ROCKS...

AMERICA

By Keiko Ichiguchi

Volume 1 Chapter 1

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IMAGE FROM ME AND MY AINIA BY RYAN